

Sanding Leading & Trailing Edges

by Gerald Sullivan, Editor of the San Diego Scale Staffer Newsletter, Sept 2004

You might have seen this idea before for sanding tapered trailing edges. I picked it up from Don Ross Rubber Powered Model Airplanes. Funny from where you get additional ideas. The August 2004 issue of Flying Models (FM Clinic) described a double sticky tape usage to hold small parts to a board for sanding. Michael Ramsey uses a double-sided tape from Anchor Adhesives. I have found that common variety double tape from Longs (or 3M brand) works really well in sanding leading and trailing edges to shape. Combining the two ideas, put a couple of tapes side by side along the edge of a straight board. I use some Melamine covered MDF from Home Depot. Place a 1/32 inch wire near the edge, then your leading/trailing edge stock, then a wire whose diameter is the thickness of your work piece. If you are not too brutal about it the wires will stay in place. Sand away until you hear a scratching sound all along the wires. This is a one shot, so replace the tape for more edges...

